Robert E. Hilbun 101C Kuau Beach Place Paia, Maui, Hawaii 96779

Ms. Donna Wieting, Chief
Marine Mammal Conservation Division
Office of Protected Resources
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East – West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226

RE: Docket No. 990927266-0240-02 Low Frequency Active Sonar (LFAS) Opposition to Deployment

Dear Ms. Wieting,

I am writing to urge the National Marine Fisheries Service to DENY the US Navy's application for permission to deploy the low frequency active solar (LFAS) systems worldwide for five (5) years. There are many reasons for such a denial, including:

- An inadequate and misleading Final Environmental Impact Statement
- Accumulated evidence that LFAS kills marine mammals and causes them to avoid LFA sounds, stop singing, change their song, and otherwise experience disruption of their normal behaviors and
- The likelihood that Navy mid-range sonar is responsible for the deaths of numerous cetaceans in the Bahamas (March 2000), demonstrating that the Navy has inadequately evaluated the environmental impacts of a system they are already using.

There are too many unanswered questions and far too much evidence of adverse environmental impacts to permit and allow the Navy to put marine life at risk.

There is also the unfortunate fact that the Navy has spent hard earned money of the taxpayers (people like us) in hundreds of millions of dollars preparing to deploy the LFA system prior to preparing an environmental impact statement. The Navy is, therefore, under pressure to deploy the system to justify the investment and to ignore or downplay the known adverse environmental impacts.

The National Marine Fisheries Service has no obligation to help the Navy justify a mistake. NFMS should act in a responsible manner and protect the marine life and let the Navy deal with their own mistake.

Please be a guardian of the oceans by denying the Navy application for permission to deploy the SURTASS LFA system.

Most Sincerely,

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po it 270 DAYS A YGARA You're Probably going to be a little irritates at some point. Possibly Evan slightly stressED out, muit I Keep Doing it + Doing it of course this is fotally against the LAW in our country AND probably most countries on garth. We have no right to anthogan on strass tha Fragile OCEAN ECOSYST. to build more cold war manfallity crap !!! WE NAAD to INVITE the Chinase to joint US AND PArticipAta in the INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION Share the Cost of Space Explination. The problem is the military trousfeld Complex parior You pon't near gans to protect your salf From the Neighbor, you have himoren for tex AND halp him with his LAWN AND be Friendly Not A Big Bully This is the 21st Contumy we say All Earthlings starting July 20, 1969 when we walked on the moon. Earth Should be NATIONAL PARK. All MANUFACTURING that isn't complete, EUITON MENTAlly stua should be pong ON MOON OR MIL. With RA-DIRACTED ASTRIOS FOR RASOURSAS - WA NAAD to open OUT MINDS & DREAM Big the DAYS OF VIKINGS & CHECK ARE OVER, SUTE YOU HAVE to workey About terrorism when would